

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO DEA HQS WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR KNIGHT

STATE FOR E. HURWITZ, NEA/AT, DUNLOP EUR/EE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, RO

SUBJ: IN-COUNTRY TRAINING FOR ROMANIA

REF: BUCH 4037

1. IN MAKING CALL FOR PURPOSE OF LEARNING ROMANIAN
PREFERENCES WITH RESPECT TO TRAINING IN 1975 AS SPOKEN
ABOUT EARLIER (REFTEL), EMBOFF WAS TOLD BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OF CUSTOMS CEZAR GULBENKIAN THAT CUSTOMS SERVICE HAD CURRENT
WORKLOAD THAT WAS PUTTING TRAINING OF ALL SORTS INTO TEMPORARY
LIMBO. ALLUDING TO NEW CUSTOMS TARIFF THAT WAS TO HAVE BEEN
INTRODUCED AT YEAR-END, GULBENKIAN SAID THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY
BE MID-YEAR BEFORE NEW TARIFF SCHEDULES WOULD BE PUBLISHED.
WHEN ASKED WHAT PROBLEMS HAD ARisen, GULBENKIAN SAID THAT
COORDINATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ORGANS HAD RUN BEHIND,
PARTLY BECAUSE SENIOR OFFICIALS HAD BEEN TIED UP WITH POLITICAL
EVENTS (HE MENTIONED THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION AND
THE 11TH PARTY CONGRESS). SOMEWHAT SHEEPISHLY GULBENKIAN
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SAID HE WAS NO BETTER PREPARED FOR SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS

ABOUT TRAINING THAN HE WAS LAST FALL, WHEN HE HIMSELF PROPOSED THE TURN OF THE YEAR AS AN APPROPRIATE TIME. GULBENKIAN ADDED THAT HE HAD ARRIVED AT THIS POSITION AFTER TALKING WITH DIRECTOR-GENERAL CONSTANTIN TINCU. THE QUESTION WAS THEN ASKED WHETHER A TIME FRAME SHOULD BE PUT ON A FUTURE VISIT BY A NARCOTICS SPECIALIST. GULBENKIAN ANSWERED THAT HE WOULD NOT EXPECT A VISIT TO BE MADE FOR THE SAKE OF COURTESY ALONE AND THAT FOR THE MOMENT NO PURPOSE OTHER THAN COURTESY COULD BE SERVED.

2. EMBASSY HAS IN THE MEANTIME ESTABLISHED FOR THE SECOND TIME THAT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IS NOT INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING NARCOTICS TRAINING. THE CUSTOMS SERVICE WILL THEREFORE REMAIN THE POINT OF CONTACT IN THIS DOMAIN.

3. COMMENT: DESPITE THIS SETBACK IN OUR EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN GOR TIES WITH THE US CUSTOMS SERVICE, WE APPRAISE IT AS TEMPORARY IN NATURE. THE EMBASSY'S RELATIONS WITH THE ROMANIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE REMAIN GOOD AND WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO RAISE NARCOTICS RELATED TOPICS AT EVERY APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY. WE KNOW THAT THE ROMANIANS ARE NOT UNCONCERNED ABOUT TRAFFICING IN NARCOTICS AND WE REMAIN CONFIDENT THAT THE GOR WILL WANT OUR ASSISTANCE AGAIN AFTER THEIR CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS ARE RESOLVED.

BARNES

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